

allowed the six States to set artificially high prices for their producers, it allowed them to block entry of lower priced milk from producers in competing States. To give them an even bigger advantage, processors in the region get a subsidy to export their higher priced milk to noncompact States. It's a windfall for Northeast dairy farmers. It's also plainly unfair and unjust to the rest of the country.

Mr. President, the Northeast Interstate Dairy Compact (NEIDC) is set to expire at the implementation of USDA's new Federal Milk Market Order system. According to the Omnibus Appropriations measure passed last year, the expiration date of the NEIDC is scheduled for October 1, 1999. Now, Members of Congress are pushing for an extension and expansion of the existing milk cartel and for the authorization of another.

To make clear the magnitude of this legislation on producers and consumers we need to only look at the numbers. Currently, three percent of milk is under a compact, conceivably, under this new measure, over 40% of this country's milk will be affected. More importantly, one hundred percent of this country's milk prices will be affected—in Wisconsin, prices will be adversely affected.

These compacts amount to nothing short of government-sponsored price fixing. They are unfair, and bad policy. Now, my colleagues would like you to make this compact permanent, expand it to include other states, and authorize a southern dairy compact. After three years, we know that dairy compacts:

Blatantly interfere with interstate commerce and wildly distort the marketplace by erecting artificial barriers around one specially protected region of the Nation;

Arbitrarily provide preferential price treatment for farmers in the Northeast at the expense of farmers in other regions who work just as hard, who love their homes just as much and whose products are just as good—maybe better in Wisconsin;

Irresponsibly encourage excess milk production in one region without establishing effective supply control. This practice flaunts basic economic principles and ignores the obvious risk that it will drive down milk prices for producers everywhere else in the country;

Raises retail milk prices on the millions of consumers in the Compact region;

Imposes higher costs on every taxpayer because we all pay for nutrition programs such as food stamps and the national school lunch programs that provide milk and other dairy products.

As a price-fixing device, the Northeast Interstate Dairy Compact was unprecedented in the history of this Nation. As a dairy cartel, it is a poor legislative fix and bad precedent to deal with low milk prices.

Wisconsin's dairy farmers are being economically crippled by federal dairy

policies. It's time to bring justice to federal dairy policy, and give Wisconsin Dairy farmers a fair shot in the market place.

I urge my colleagues not to buy into the rhetoric surrounding this issue. I urge you to work together towards fair national dairy policy. A policy that provides all dairy producers a fair price for their commodity, a policy that allows all of this country's dairy producers to succeed on the basis of hard work and a good product.

I urge my colleagues to oppose this legislation and to join me in the fight against its passage.

#### MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message from the President of the United States was communicated to the Senate by Mr. Williams, one of his secretaries.

#### EXECUTIVE MESSAGE REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate a message from the President of the United States submitting a nomination which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

(The nomination received today is printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

#### REPORT OF AN EXECUTIVE ORDER RELATIVE TO RESERVE MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES TO ACTIVE DUTY—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT—PM 20

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services.

#### *To the Congress of the United States:*

I have today, pursuant to section 12304 of title 10, United States Code, authorized the Secretary of Defense, and the Secretary of Transportation with respect to the Coast Guard, when it is not operating as a service within the Department of the Navy, under their respective jurisdictions, to order to active duty any units, and any individual members not assigned to a unit organized to serve as a unit, of the Selected Reserve, or any member in the Individual Ready Reserve mobilizations category and designated essential under regulations prescribed by the Secretary concerned. These reserves will augment the active components in support of operations in and around the former Yugoslavia related to the conflict in Kosovo.

A copy of the Executive order implementing this action is attached.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, April 27, 1999.

#### MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 4:57 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by one of its reading clerks, announced

that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 92. Concurrent resolution Expressing the sense of Congress with respect to the tragic shooting at Columbine High School in Littleton, Colorado.

#### ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 5:00 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. 800. An act to provide for education flexibility partnerships.

The enrolled bill was signed subsequently by the President pro tempore (Mr. THURMOND).

#### EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, which were referred as indicated:

EC-2706. A communication from the Managing Director of the Federal Housing Finance Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report under the Government in the Sunshine Act for calendar year 1998; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-2707. A communication from the Acting General Counsel of the Department of Defense, transmitting, proposed legislation relative to various management concerns; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-2708. A communication from the Director, Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Information Collection Budget of the U.S. Government for fiscal year 1999; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-2709. A communication from the General Counsel, Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, a notice of a vacancy in the OMB office; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-2710. A communication from the Comptroller General of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, various reports issued or released during February 1999; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-2711. A communication from the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Government National Mortgage Association management report for fiscal year 1998; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-2712. A communication from the Chairman, U.S. Merit Systems Protection Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual statistical report for fiscal year 1998; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

#### PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and were referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-37. A resolution adopted by the City Council of Cincinnati, Ohio relative to awarding a gold medal to Rosa Parks; ordered to lie on the table.

POM-38. A petition from the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

## CERTIFICATION

After the conclusion of the General Canvass as disposed in Article 6.008 the Electoral Law of Puerto Rico and in conformity with Article 29 of Law 249 of August 17, 1998, the Plebiscite Law of December 13, 1998, we certify the following official results of the Plebiscite held on December 13, 1998.

## ISLAND WIDE RESULTS

	Votes	Percent
None of the Above .....	787,900	50.3
Petition Number 3 .....	728,157	46.5
Petition Number 4 .....	39,838	2.5
Petition Number 2 .....	4,536	0.3
Petition Number 1 .....	993	0.1
*Others: .....	4,846	0.3

\*Ballots in blank: 1,890; void: 2,956.

Registered Voters: 2,197,824.

Participation: 71.3%.

Total voting polls: 5,611 of 5,611 for a 100%.

POM-39. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

## SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 1617

Whereas, By act of Congress, each state is invited to provide and furnish statues, not exceeding two in number, of deceased persons who have been citizens thereof and illustrious for their historic renown or for distinguished civic or military services, such as the state shall determine to be worthy of national commemoration in a national statutory hall; and

Whereas, The state of Kansas has had one citizen, Dwight David Eisenhower, who stands alone in the history of this state in achievement of a distinguished career in both the civic and military services, a man whose destiny led him from a boyhood home in Abilene, Kansas, to lead the armies of his nation and those of the free world in one of the greatest and most historic military engagements of all time and to lead the people of his nation in peace as the 34th president of the United States; and

Whereas, Dwight David Eisenhower, citizen of Kansas, General of the Army, President of the United States and honored and respected friend of presidents, kings and leaders and peoples of the free world is eminently worthy of national commemoration in a national statutory hall; and

Whereas, The state of Kansas in years past did provide for the placing of two statues of distinguished citizens of Kansas in statutory hall; and

Whereas, One of such statues is of the Honorable George W. Glick, a man who although he did not hold national office or win national or international acclaim, was a most honored and distinguished governor and legislative and civic leader in the state of Kansas; and

Whereas, Governor Glick can best be honored by locating his statue in a place of honor in the capitol of the state of Kansas where it may be enjoyed by our citizens and visitors; and

Whereas, The people of the state of Kansas wish to furnish a statue of Dwight David Eisenhower for placement in Statuary Hall in the capitol of this nation, with such statue hopefully being provided by the citizens of the state of Kansas through the efforts of the Eisenhower Foundation, Inc.; and

Whereas, The creation of the statue of Dwight David Eisenhower depends upon the willingness of the trustees of the Eisenhower Foundation, Inc. to organize a solicitation through appropriate representatives of the civic, fraternal and patriotic organizations of this state and the handling by such trustees of the funds so solicited; and

Whereas, A suitable statue of Dwight David Eisenhower must be created by a gift-

ed and experienced sculptor who should be chosen by a committee of select persons suitably qualified to recommend the selection of such sculptor, and the trustees of the Eisenhower Foundation should name such a select commission; and

Whereas, When an appropriate sculptor has been selected to create the statue of Dwight David Eisenhower, the trustees of the Eisenhower Foundation, Inc. would be suitable to contract with the sculptor with funds obtained as indicated in this preamble for the creation of such a statue; and

Whereas, When the statue of Dwight David Eisenhower is completed, necessary plans need to be made and action needs to be taken to transport the statue to Washington, D.C. for installation in Statuary Hall and for the return of Governor Glick's statue to Kansas for installation in the state capitol in Topeka; and

Whereas, Should the Eisenhower Foundation, Inc. be unable or unwilling to perform the functions described in this preamble, the responsibility for the creation and installation of the statue of Dwight David Eisenhower should be assumed by the Kansas Department of Commerce and Housing; and

Whereas, Kansas has another hero, Amelia Earhart, a native of Atchison, who as a pioneer for women in aviation lost her life under still unknown circumstances, as is a Kansas worthy of recognition by placing a statue of her in Statuary Hall. Further, it is appropriate that the statue of Amelia Earhart be substituted for that of another Atchison native, former U.S. Senator John James Ingalls, whose statue should be returned to Kansas for an appropriate placement: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas, the House of Representatives concurring therein,* That the legislature of the state of Kansas respectfully requests that the Congress of the United States return the statue of George W. Glick earlier presented by the state of Kansas for placement in Statuary Hall and accept in return, for placement in Statuary Hall, a statue of Dwight David Eisenhower, a citizen of the free world, and worthy of national commemoration in Statuary Hall; and

*Be it further resolved,* That the legislature of the state of Kansas, on behalf of the people of this state and on behalf of this state itself, respectfully requests the trustees of the Eisenhower Foundation, Inc. to appoint a commission of representatives of civic, fraternal and patriotic organizations of this state, and to convey to such commission a charge to organize a solicitation for funds for the creation of a statue of Dwight David Eisenhower as contemplated by this resolution. Such trustees are further requested to provide management assistance to such commission and to receive and employ the funds so obtained to acquire such statue for placement in Statuary Hall in the capitol of this nation. Such trustees are further requested to appoint a committee of persons suitably qualified to select a gifted and experienced sculptor to create a suitable statue of Dwight David Eisenhower. Such trustees are further requested to contract with such sculptor with funds obtained as indicated in this resolution for the creation of such statue. Thereupon such trustees are further requested to make the statue so created of Dwight David Eisenhower available for placement in Statuary hall, the same to then be owned by the Congress of the United States; and

*Be it further resolved,* That the City of Atchison and the Atchison Chamber of Commerce should be tasked to find funds for the costs of the creation, transportation and installation of the statue of Amelia Earhart in Statuary Hall and for returning the statue of Senator Ingalls to Kansas; and

*Be it further resolved,* That should be efforts of the Eisenhower Foundation, Inc. and the commission of representatives of civic, fraternal and patriotic organizations of this state be unable to fulfill the object of this resolution, and the City of Atchison and the Atchison Chamber of Commerce be unable to successfully fund the placement of a statue of Amelia Earhart in Statuary Hall and transporting the statue of Senator Ingalls back to Kansas, the Kansas Department of Commerce and Housing is tasked to take action ultimately providing a statue of Dwight David Eisenhower and Amelia Earhart for placement in Statuary Hall; and

*Be it further resolved,* That the cost of the creation of the statue of Dwight David Eisenhower, as well as the costs for transporting the statue of Dwight David Eisenhower to Washington, D.C. and transporting the statue of Governor Glick to the state capitol in Topeka, plus incidental costs for installation of statues in their permanent locations and the essential costs of any unveiling ceremonies should be borne by the state of Kansas through the use of private or public funds; and

*Be it further resolved,* That the secretary of state is directed to transmit enrolled copies of this resolution to the President of the Senate of the United States, the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the United States, each member of the Kansas delegation in the Congress of the United States, the Governor and Lieutenant Governor of the state of Kansas and to each of the trustees of the Eisenhower Foundation, Inc.

POM-40. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Vermont; to the Committee on Appropriations.

## JOINT HOUSE RESOLUTION

Whereas, Veterans' Administration (VA) hospitals provide medical care for veterans, including men and women, who have risked their lives to protect the security of our nation, and

Whereas, the mission of the White River Junction VAMROC is to "serve veterans and their families in a proficient, dependable and compassionate manner within an environment that focuses on quality health care, benefits & services, research & education and support of the Department of Defense," and

Whereas, in 1932, White River Junction was chosen by the Veterans' Administration as a site for a regional hospital which was then built on a 176-acre site donated by the Town of Hartford for that purpose, and

Whereas, building 1 was completed in 1938 and successive buildings have been built and the facility and its services have been continuously expanded and improved since that date, and

Whereas, the White River Junction VAMROC has steadfastly provided quality health care and efficient benefit administration to veterans who have served with dedication and courage to protect and defend the United States, and has provided solace and community to veterans and their families, and

Whereas, the White River Junction VAMROC has developed into an outstanding teaching hospital, utilizing cutting edge technology, and is an essential source of learning opportunities for medical students and physicians in training in a northern New England teaching hospital with the potential to encourage rural physician placement, and

Whereas, the White River Junction VAMROC has developed into a premier research facility, conducting studies on Gulf War illnesses, and delivery of cost-effective outpatient services, and

Whereas, the current and possible future funding reductions threaten to harm vital

infrastructures that are indispensable for optimal patient care such as the in-patient surgical unit, anesthesia staff, medicine and psychiatry units, and

Whereas, the current financial crisis at the White River Junction VAMROC may be mitigated if new and creative funding options were explored, including innovative research on the delivery of health services to veterans, and

Whereas, the priority of serving veterans must be absolute and irrevocable, and must be the foundation for medical care at this hospital, regardless of any new models of health care delivery, and

Whereas, any eliminated services would be very difficult and costly to replace or restart and would threaten the level of care of other services of both in-patient and out-patient units, now therefore be it

*Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives,* That the General Assembly urgently requests that the United States Congress maintain stable and permanent funding of the White River Junction VAMROC, and be it further

*Resolved,* That the Governor and the Vermont Congressional Delegation, are urgently requested to support the White River Junction VAMROC to strengthen its capacity to provide Vermont's veterans with medical care and benefit services, to serve as a premier teaching facility, and to engage in essential research of benefits to veterans and the practice of medicine in Vermont, and be it further

*Resolved,* That Vermont's Congressional Delegation in conjunction with the Veterans' Administration and veteran service organizations are requested to investigate the broadening of the White River Junction VAMROC patient base, provided that the priority of serving Veterans remains absolute and irrevocable, and be it further

*Resolved,* That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the President of the United States, William Jefferson Clinton, Vice President Albert Gore, Veterans' Administration Secretary Togo D. West, Jr., Vermont Governor Howard Dean, New Hampshire Governor Jean Shaheen, New Hampshire Senate President Clesson Blaisdell, New Hampshire House Speaker Donna Sytek, to each member of the Vermont and New Hampshire Congressional Delegation, and to all Veterans' organizations registered with the State Veterans' Affairs Office at 118 State Street, Montpelier, VT.

POM-41. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of North Dakota; to the Committee on Appropriations.

#### HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3039

Whereas, employers pay a federal employment security tax under the Federal Unemployment Tax Act [68A Stat. 439; 26 U.S.C. 3301 et seq.] as a payroll tax that produces revenue dedicated solely to use in the federal-state employment security system; and

Whereas, employers' payroll taxes pay for administering the employment security system; providing veterans' reemployment assistance, and producing labor market information to assist in matching workers' skills with the employment needs of employers; and

Whereas, congressional appropriations have remained flat in Wagner-Peyser funding, despite adequate availability of funds from dedicated employer taxes because the Federal Unemployment Tax Act accounts are used for federal budget deficit reduction; and

Whereas, congressional appropriations have not kept pace with fixed costs of operating the employment security system, cre-

ating problems similar to the problems the gas tax creates for transportation; and

Whereas, states cannot support an infrastructure to administer the employment security system, provide veterans' reemployment assistance, and produce labor market information, without adequate, predictable resources; and

Whereas, delivering services with inadequate federal funding is a major challenge facing the State of North Dakota and Job Service North Dakota: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the House of Representatives of North Dakota, the Senate concurring therein,* That the Fifty-sixth Legislative Assembly urges the Congress of the United States to enact legislation to return adequate funds to states to fund the employment security system and give a fair return to employers for the taxes employers pay under the Federal Unemployment Tax Act; and

*Be it further resolved,* That the Secretary of State send copies of this resolution to the Speaker and Clerk of the United States House of Representatives, to the President Pro Tempore and Secretary of the United States Senate, to the news media of North Dakota, and to each member of the North Dakota Congressional Delegation.

POM-42. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the state of Maine; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

#### JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 1388

Whereas, We your Memorialists, the Members of the One Hundred and Nineteenth Legislature of the State of Maine, now assembled, in the First Regular Session, most respectfully present and petition the President of the United States and the United States Congress, as follows:

Whereas, the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on December 18, 1979, became an international treaty on September 3, 1981 and as of December 1997 has been ratified or acceded to by 161 nations; and

Whereas, although the United States is considered a world leader in human rights, supports and has a position of leadership in the United Nations, was an active participant in the drafting and is a signatory of the convention, the United States is one of the few nations that have not ratified the treaty; and

Whereas, the spirit of the convention is rooted in the goals of the United Nations and the United States, which seek to affirm faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the person and in the equal rights of men and women; and

Whereas, the convention provides a comprehensive framework for challenging the various forces that have created and sustained discrimination based on sex against half of the world's population and the 161 nations that have ratified the convention have agreed to follow the convention prescriptions; and

Whereas, although women have made major gains in the struggle for equality in social, business, political, legal and educational fields, there is much more to be accomplished; and through its support, leadership and prestige, the United States can help create a world where women are no longer discriminated against and have achieved one of the most fundamental of human rights, equality; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved,* That We, your Memorialists, request the President of the United States and the United States Congress to ratify the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women; and be it further

*Resolved,* That suitable copies of this resolution, duly authenticated by the Secretary of State, be transmitted to the Honorable William J. Clinton, President of the United States; the President of the United States Senate; the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the United States; the President of the Senate or the equivalent officer in the 49 other states; the Speaker of the House or the equivalent officer in the 49 other states; the United Nations Secretary-General, Kofi Annan; and each member of the Maine Congressional Delegation.

POM-43. A resolution adopted by the House of the Legislature of the State of Michigan; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

#### HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 26

Whereas, The veterans who are treated at the Iron Mountain VA Medical Care Facility (VAMCF) have served our country with extreme dedication. They are deserving of our respect and care every day, not just on Veterans Day. We urge administrators and directors at the Veterans Affairs Health Administration to prevent the implementation of a policy that would greatly reduce the level of quality health care services for our veterans, especially in the Upper Peninsula and northern Wisconsin; and

Whereas, The Iron Mountain VA Medical Care Facility covers a patient service area of over 25,000 square miles. Veterans from the Upper Peninsula and northern Wisconsin depend on the full range of services provided by this facility. It is callous to ask veterans suffering from illness to travel approximately 300 miles (Sault Ste. Marie to Iron Mountain) and then another 200 miles (Iron Mountain to Milwaukee) by bus to receive care. This is what the Department of Veterans Affairs is asking of our veterans in the Upper Peninsula. In December of 1998, the VA bus broke down on the way to Milwaukee with 34 veterans who needed care. A second bus was called from Milwaukee to pick up the veterans and it also broke down. This is not a situation that facilitates a return to health; and

Whereas, There is a need for an increase of hospital beds in Iron Mountain, not a decrease. Several years ago, this hospital had approximately 200 beds. The decrease to the current 17 beds far surpasses the national decrease of VA bed utilization and places a tremendous hardship on our veterans and their families; and

Whereas, By providing quality outpatient services to veterans closer to their homes, the quality of care and the number of veterans served has been substantially improved. It does not make sense to reduce services to a facility that is providing much needed and necessary services. It is wrong to force our veterans to travel many hours, in harsh conditions, away from their families, and more appropriate to continue to provide the full range of services our veterans deserve at the Iron Mountain VA Medical Care Facility: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the House of Representatives,* That we memorialize the Congress of the United States and the Veterans Affairs Administration to prevent the reduction of hospital bed capacity at the Iron Mountain Veterans Administration Medical Care Facility; and be it further

*Resolved,* That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the members of the Michigan congressional delegation, Dr. Togo West, Jr., Secretary, Veterans Health Administration, Dr. Kenneth Kizer, Undersecretary of Health, VA Administration, Dr. Hershel Gober, Deputy Secretary for Health, VA Administration and Dr. J.

Cummings, Regional VA Network Director, Department of Veterans Affairs.

POM-44. A resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Montana; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

#### JOINT RESOLUTION 4

Whereas, it is widely believed that the grizzly bear is classified as "threatened" or "endangered" only as a result of an arbitrary designation of habitat areas by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and that the grizzly bear is, in reality, neither "threatened" nor "endangered" because the State of Montana successfully maintained a viable, breeding population of grizzly bears for years prior to the arbitrary USFWS classification; and

Whereas, grizzly bear populations continue to thrive, breeding and maintaining their populations in suitable habitat in other areas; and

Whereas, the habitat in the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness is considered to be an inadequate ecosystem for supporting grizzly bears; and

Whereas, predation by grizzly bears is known to impose uncompensated costs and hazards to livestock growers and other citizens; and

Whereas, enforcement by federal agencies of arbitrary and capricious rules and regulations devised to exclude any real or imagined intrusion or disturbance to grizzly bears in recovery areas has caused the loss of many millions of dollars in personal and corporate income, the loss of many jobs, the displacement of families, the loss of needed revenue to the State of Montana, and the virtual closing of large areas of national forest land in Montana to traditional uses, such as lumbering, driving for pleasure, gathering firewood, and berry picking; and

Whereas, the Selway-Bitterroot and Frank Church River-of-No-Return wilderness complex is the only remaining wilderness in the geographical area where wilderness travelers can pursue a wilderness experience without fear of encountering grizzly bears; and

Whereas, introduction of grizzly bears into the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness will complicate or further frustrate efforts to increase populations of anadromous salmon that traditionally spawn in the rivers and streams of the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness; and

Whereas, introduction of grizzly bears into the Selway-Bitterroot and Frank Church River-of-No-Return wilderness complex will further increase the rate of bear predation of the northern Idaho elk herd, a herd that is an important asset to outfitters, guides, and residents of western Montana and northern Idaho; and

Whereas, social benefits derived from the bear introduction program are drastically out of proportion to the costs to the public of capturing, transporting, examining, releasing, monitoring, and otherwise managing an introduced population of grizzly bears, and those funds are more urgently needed to help finance real and essential social programs; and

Whereas, programs undertaken under the authority of Public Law 93-205, the federal Endangered Species Act of 1973, including the grizzly bear recovery program, place the lives, property, and freedom of local citizens and visitors in jeopardy of the wrath of the United States government in the event of accidental or mistaken actions by citizens that could be judged as infringement on a listed species or the habitat of a listed species and further expand the body of laws and regulations of which United States citizens might become victims when applied: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the State of Montana,*

(1) That grizzly bears not be released into the Selway-Bitterroot and Frank Church River-of-No-Return wilderness complex as part of the federal grizzly bear recovery program.

(2) That control of grizzly bear populations by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service be ended and that the management of grizzly bears within the borders of Montana and Idaho be returned to the fish and wildlife agencies of those respective states.

(3) That the grizzly bear be removed from the list of threatened or endangered species, based on evidence of the viability of grizzly bear populations in Montana, Idaho, Wyoming, Alaska, and Canada.

(4) That if the United States government persists in its proposal to introduce grizzly bears into the Selway-Bitterroot and Frank Church River-of-No-Return wilderness complex and succeeds in placing grizzly bears in those areas, the United States government be held financially liable for any damages to livestock and other domestic animals and to property, for loss of life, and for personal injury arising from the actions of the grizzly bears and of United States government agents engaged in the grizzly bear recovery program, including economic losses suffered by individuals or communities as a result of actions related to the program.

(5) That the Secretary of State send copies of this resolution to the members of the Montana and Idaho Congressional Delegations, the Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, the President of the United States Senate, and the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives.

POM-45. A resolution adopted by the House of Legislature of the State of Michigan; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

#### HOUSE RESOLUTION No. 17

Whereas, After considerable debate, Congress and the administration agreed in 1998 to a transportation measure that set place a formula for transportation spending. This agreement provided that unanticipated revenues would go to specific types of projects; and

Whereas, Historically low costs for gasoline have spurred a significant increase in gas tax revenue. In addition to the direct impact of the lower price per gallon while the tax per gallon is constant, the glut of oil in the marketplace has also encouraged the purchase and use of larger, less fuel efficient vehicles. As a result, gas tax revenues are higher than expected; and

Whereas, The administration has responded to the increased money available by proposing several new programs. A great number of these proposals are outside of the agreed upon provisions for transportation spending. The proportions and projects agreed upon provide a reliable tool for states in projecting how to meet future needs. It would be wrong for the federal government to ignore the agreement and the ability of the states to fill transportation needs as best serves their citizens: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the House of Representatives,* That we memorialize the President and the Congress of the United States to refrain from divesting transportation money from the purposes and formula already in place; and be it further

*Resolved,* That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and the members of the Michigan congressional delegation.

POM-46. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Maine; to the

Committee on Environment and Public Works.

#### JOINT RESOLUTION 1492

We, your Memorialists, the Members of the One Hundred and Nineteenth Legislature of the State of Maine now assembled in the First Regular Session, most respectfully present and petition the members of the Congress of the United States, as follows:

Whereas, the Federal Government under the Clean Air Act requires the use of an oxygenate for gasoline at a minimum of 2% of content by weight; and

Whereas, the State has serious concerns about the presence of methyl tertiary-butyl ether or MTBE, an oxygenate in reformulated gasoline, in groundwater; and

Whereas, the prescriptive requirements in the Clean Air Act for oxygenate content limit our State's ability to address our groundwater contamination issues: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved,* That we, your memorialists, respectfully urge and request that the United States Congress remove the requirement in the Clean Air Act for 2%-by-weight oxygenate in reformulated gasoline so that additional alternate fuel mixtures may be available for use in Maine; and be it further

*Resolved,* That suitable copies of this resolution, duly authenticated by the Secretary of State, be transmitted to the Honorable William J. Clinton, President of the United States, the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the Congress of the United States and to each member of the Maine Congressional Delegation.

POM-47. A resolution adopted by the House of the Legislature of the State of Michigan; to be Committee on Finance.

#### HOUSE RESOLUTION No. 14

Whereas, After a long and arduous effort, the states reached a settlement with several tobacco companies for damages to the public's health and to reform certain industry practices, including the impact of certain marketing efforts on children. The 1998 multi-billion dollar settlement extends over twenty-five years and includes the payment of money directly to the states and to funds established to address specific components of the settlement; and

Whereas, In the time since the settlement was reached, federal officials have raised various proposals for the federal government to claim portions of the settlement money. This possibility prompted legislation in the 105th Congress seeking to prohibit the federal government from seizing any state tobacco settlement funds. Legislation has been introduced in the 106th Congress, H.R. 351 and S. 346, to safeguard the states' money by prohibiting the Secretary of Health and Human Services from considering this money recoverable under Medicaid; and

Whereas, The settlement reached by the states and the tobacco industry was the result of risks, expenses, and initiatives of the states. They have every right to the funds to cover state health damages and costs. In carrying out the settlement provisions, the states must have the assurance that there will not be impediments to the settlement from any federal agency, including directives on how any of the funds can be spent. There can be no cloud of uncertainty hanging over the states as they project future activities in carrying out the directives of the agreement: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the House of Representatives,* That we memorialize the Congress to enact legislation to prohibit the federal government from claiming any tobacco settlement money from the states or directing how the states expend these funds; and be it further

*Resolved*, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and the members of the Michigan congressional delegation.

PM-48. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Maine; to the Committee on Finance.

#### JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 1469

Whereas, the state of Maine settled its litigation against the tobacco industry on November 23, 1998; and

Whereas, the Federal Government, through the Federal Health Care Financing Administration, has asserted that it is entitled to a significant share of the state settlement on the basis that it represents the federal share of Medicaid costs; and

Whereas, the Federal Government asserts that it is authorized and obligated, under the United States Social Security Act, to collect its share of any settlement funds attributable to Medicaid; and

Whereas, the state lawsuit was brought for violation of state law under theories, and the state lawsuit did not make any federal claims; and

Whereas, the State bore all the risk and expense in the litigation brought in State Court and settled without any assistance from the Federal Government; and

Whereas, the State is entitled to all of the funds negotiated in the tobacco settlement agreement without any federal claim; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That We, your Memorialists, request that the President of the United States and the United States Congress work together to support and sign legislation to allow the states to keep their tobacco settlement funds; and be it further

*Resolved*, That suitable copies of this resolution, duly authenticated by the Secretary of State, be transmitted to the Honorable William J. Clinton, President of the United States; the President of the United States Senate; the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the United States; and to each Member of the Maine Congressional Delegation.

POM-49. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of West Virginia; to the Committee on Finance.

#### HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 22

Whereas, the states of the union, at their own expense and on their own initiative, filed and pursued the unprecedented civil litigation against the tobacco industry that resulted in the historic settlement agreement negotiated by the states and entered into on the twenty-third day of November, one thousand nine hundred ninety-eight; and

Whereas, the settlement agreement reached between the parties to the litigation was based on the past and future health care expenditures of the aggregate populations of each participating state and not solely for those states' Medicaid beneficiaries; and

Whereas, the government of the United States was not a party to any of the litigation against the tobacco industry, it did not assume any of the risk or incur any of the costs associated with the litigation; nor has it yet sought recovery of any smoking-related health care expenditures paid out under the Medicare program; and

Whereas, the Health Care Financing Administration has voluntarily suspended its efforts to recoup Medicaid matching funds from the states' tobacco settlement awards pending action by the United States Congress, which voluntary suspension may be revoked at any time; and

Whereas, the Administrator of the Health Care Financing Administration has publicly

stated the ultimate intention of the federal government to recoup up to two thirds of the tobacco settlement funds from the states and to dictate how states may spend the remaining settlement funds left untouched by the federal government; and

Whereas, it would be unjust to allow the federal government to enrich itself at the states' risk and expense and, at the same time, reward itself for its own inaction with respect to recovering tobacco-related health care costs; therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Legislature of West Virginia*, That the Congress of the United States is requested to enact legislation amending the Social Security Act so that funds due the states as a result of the Master Settlement Agreement reached with the tobacco industry are exempted from recoupment by the Health Care Financing Administration and prohibiting federal interference with the states in deciding how to best utilize those settlement funds; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Clerk of the House shall, immediately upon its adoption, transmit duly authenticated copies of this resolution to the Speaker and the Clerk of the United States House of Representatives, the President Pro Tempore and the Secretary of the United States Senate, the members of the West Virginia Congressional Delegation, the Administrator of the Health Care Financing Administration, the Attorney General of the United States, and the President of the United States.

POM-50. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the Legislature of the State of Rhode Island; to the Committee on Finance.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION

Whereas, November 23, 1998, representatives from forty-six (46) states signed a settlement agreement with the five (5) largest tobacco manufacturers; and

Whereas, the Attorneys General Master Tobacco Settlement Agreement culminated legal action that began in 1994 when states began filing lawsuits against the tobacco industry; and

Whereas, the respective states are presently in the process of finalizing the terms of the Master Tobacco Settlement Agreement, and are making initial fiscal determinations relative to the most responsible ways and means to utilize the settlement funds; and

Whereas, under the terms of the agreement, tobacco manufacturers will pay \$206 billion over the next twenty-five (25) years to the respective states in up-front and annual payments; and

Whereas, Rhode Island is projected to receive \$1,408,469,747 through the year 2025 under the terms of the Master Tobacco Settlement Agreement; and

Whereas, because many state lawsuits sought to recover Medicaid funds spent to treat illnesses caused by tobacco use, the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA) contends that it is authorized and obligated, under the Social Security Act, to collect its share of any tobacco settlement funds attributable to Medicaid; and

Whereas, the Master Tobacco Settlement Agreement does not address the Medicaid recoupment issue, and thus the Social Security Act must be amended to resolve the recoupment issue in favor of the respective states; and

Whereas, in addition to the recoupment issue, there is also considerable interest, at both the state and national levels, in earmarking state tobacco settlement fund expenditures; and

Whereas, as we move toward final approval of the Master Tobacco Settlement Agreement, it is imperative that state sovereignty be preserved; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations do hereby memorialize the United States Congress to enact legislation amending the Social Security Act to prohibit recoupment by the federal government of state tobacco settlement funds; and be it further

*Resolved*, that it is the sense of this Senate that the respective state legislatures should have complete autonomy over the appropriation and expenditure of state tobacco settlement funds; and be it further

*Resolved*, that the the Secretary of State be and he is hereby authorized and directed to transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to the Honorable Bill Clinton, President of the United States of America; the President and the Secretary of the U.S. Senate; the Speaker and the Clerk of the U.S. House of Representatives; and to each member of the Rhode Island Congressional Delegation.

POM-51. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the Legislature of the State of New Mexico; to the Committee on Finance.

#### SENATE MEMORIAL 46

Whereas, on November 23, 1998, Representatives from forty-six States signed a Settlement Agreement with the five largest Tobacco Manufacturers; and

Whereas, the Attorneys General Master Tobacco Settlement Agreement culminated legal action that began in 1994 when States began filing Lawsuits against the Tobacco Industry; and

Whereas, New Mexico and the other States that signed the Master Tobacco Settlement Agreement are currently making their initial decisions regarding the most responsible ways and means to use the Settlement Funds; and

Whereas, under the terms of the Agreement, Tobacco Manufacturers will pay two hundred six billion dollars (\$206,000,000,000) over the next twenty-five years to the respective States, and New Mexico is projected to receive about one billion one hundred seventy million dollars (\$1,170,000,000) of that amount; and

Whereas, because many State Lawsuits sought to recover Medicaid Funds spent to treat illnesses caused by tobacco use, the Health Care Financing Administration contends that it is authorized and obligated under the Social Security Act to collect its share of any Tobacco Settlement Funds attributable to Medicaid; and

Whereas, the Master Tobacco Settlement Agreement does not address the Medicaid Recoupment Issue, and thus the Social Security Act must be amended to resolve the Recoupment Issue in favor of the respective States; and

Whereas, as we move toward final approval of the Master Tobacco Settlement Agreement, it is imperative that State Sovereignty be preserved; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate of the State of New Mexico*, That the United States Congress enact Legislation amending the Social Security Act to prohibit Recoupment by the Federal Government of State Tobacco Settlement Funds; and be it further

*Resolved*, That State Legislatures have complete autonomy over the appropriation and expenditure of State Tobacco Settlement Funds, and that the Federal Government not earmark or impose any other restrictions on the respective States' use of State Tobacco Settlement Funds; and be it further

*Resolved*, That copies of this Memorial be transmitted to the President of the United States of America, the President and the Secretary of the United States Senate, the Speaker and the Clerk of the United States House of Representatives and each Member of the New Mexico Congressional Delegation.

POM-52. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Montana; to the Committee on Finance.

## JOINT RESOLUTION

Whereas, on November 23, 1998, 46 states, U.S. territories, commonwealths, and the District of Columbia reached a multibillion dollar settlement with six tobacco companies to end pending civil actions brought by the states claiming as damages money spent treating residents for injuries caused by smoking; and

Whereas, the United States has asserted a claim to over one-half of the settlement money, claiming that much of the money to be received by the states amounts to Medicaid overpayments and, as such, can be "recouped" by the federal government; and

Whereas, the record-setting settlement was achieved by the states, territories, commonwealths, and the District of Columbia through their efforts and their efforts alone, the federal government having played no role whatsoever in the proceedings leading to the settlement or the settlement negotiations; and

Whereas, having played no role in the lawsuits and settlements, any attempt by the United States to "recoup" the damages paid by the tobacco companies amounts to a seizure of money to which the states, territories, commonwealths, and the District of Columbia have a moral and legal claim; and

Whereas, there is bipartisan support forming in the U.S. Congress for the introduction of legislation to keep the United States from making good on its claim for recoupment; and

Whereas, strong support should be shown by Montana for the Congressional efforts to prevent the United States from further asserting ownership of the settlement proceeds: now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the State of Montana,* That the Montana Legislature convey to the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives its strong opposition to the taking by the federal government of any of the proceeds of the tobacco settlement. Be it further

*Resolved,* That the Legislature requests the Congress to enact legislation to keep the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services from further asserting or making good on a claim to the settlement proceeds. Be it further

*Resolved,* That the Legislature requests the Montana Congressional Delegation to work closely with those members of Congress who will sponsor legislation to see that the proceeds of the settlement be paid to and retained by the states. Be it further

*Resolved,* That the Secretary of State send copies of this resolution to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and the members of Montana's Congressional Delegation.

POM-53. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Texas; to the Committee on Finance.

## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. 9

Whereas, Two years after filing suit against the tobacco industry, Texas' attorney general announced on January 16, 1998, that the industry had agreed to the largest settlement in the history of tobacco litigation; and

Whereas, Tireless negotiations between Texas and the defendants ensued, resulting in a memorandum of understanding signed in July 1998 that resolved all outstanding differences and settled Texas' lawsuit against the tobacco industry; and

Whereas, The federal government played no role in the litigation for Texas' \$17.3 bil-

lion settlement with the tobacco companies and has declined to bring its own lawsuit against the industry, but now, through the Health Care Financing Administration, asserts that it is entitled to a significant share of state settlements on the basis that it represents the federal share of Medicaid costs; and

Whereas, Texas bore all of the risk and expense in the litigation and settlement negotiations, receiving no assistance from the federal government, and is entitled to all of the funds negotiated in the tobacco settlement agreement; and

Whereas, United States Senators Kay Bailey Hutchison of Texas and Bob Graham of Florida have introduced bipartisan legislation, S. 346, to prohibit the federal government from seizing any part of the tobacco settlement, and similar legislation, H.R. 351, has been introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved,* That the 76th Legislature of the State of Texas hereby respectfully urge the Congress of the United States not to make federal claims against the proceeds of the Texas tobacco settlement; and, be it further

*Resolved,* That the Texas secretary of state forward official copies of this resolution to the president of the United States, to the speaker of the house of representatives and the president of the senate of the United States Congress, and to all the members of the Texas delegation to the congress with the request that this resolution be officially entered in the Congressional Record as a memorial to the Congress of the United States of America.

POM-54. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the Legislature of the State of Michigan; to the Committee on Finance.

## SENATE RESOLUTION No. 6

Whereas, Following an effort that involved considerable expense, time, and risk, the states have reached a settlement with tobacco companies in response to litigation initiated to recover damages to the states related to the public's health. This lawsuit was based on state claims for costs they incurred related to tobacco and on long-term concerns for public health and the vulnerability of children. State laws on consumer protection, health, and other areas provided the foundation for the legal actions; and

Whereas, Throughout the process of litigation, the states bore the burdens of bringing the case, without the assistance of the federal government. The terms of the settlement provided for the states' responsibilities in directing certain amounts to specific programs to remedy problems caused by tobacco products; and

Whereas, In the time since the settlement was first announced and finalized, some units of the federal government have been making claims on portions of the tobacco settlement funds. The administration's claims are apparently based on efforts to recoup money channeled through the state for the federal component of overall Medicaid costs; and

Whereas, The federal government's efforts to claim portions of the states' tobacco settlement are inappropriate. The states, acting together and on the basis of damages to the states—not the federal government—earned this settlement. There are measures before the Congress that would prohibit federal agencies from trying to recoup funds as a result of this agreement; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate,* That we memorialize the President and the Congress of the United States to prohibit any agency of the federal government from recouping any of the tobacco settlement funds due the states; and be it further

*Resolved,* That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and the members of the Michigan congressional delegation.

POM-55. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Nevada; to the Committee on Finance.

## ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION No. 5

Whereas, The provisions set forth in 42 U.S.C. §415 for determining the primary insurance amount of a person receiving social security were amended in 1977 by Public Law 95-216; and

Whereas, Those amendments resulted in disparate benefits according to when a person initially becomes eligible for benefits; and

Whereas, Persons who were born during the years 1917 to 1926, inclusive, and who are commonly referred to as "notch babies," receive lower benefits than persons who were born before that time; and

Whereas, The payment of benefits under the social security system is not based on need or other considerations related to welfare, but on a program of insurance based on contributions by a person and his employer, and

Whereas, During the 105th session of Congress, H.R. 3008 and S. 2003 were introduced in the House of Representatives and the Senate, respectively, to provide compensation for the inequities in the payment of social security benefits to persons based on the year in which they initially become eligible for such benefits, but no action has been taken on such legislation; and

Whereas, The discrimination between persons receiving benefits is contrary to the principles of justice and fairness; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Assembly and Senate of the State of Nevada, Jointly,* That Congress is hereby urged to enact legislation that provides for the payment of lump sums to persons who became eligible for social security benefits after 1981 and before 1992 and have received lower benefits as a result of the changes in the computation of benefits enacted by Public Law 95-216, as compensation for the reduced benefits they have been paid; and be it further

*Resolved,* That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly prepare and transmit a copy of this resolution to the Vice President of the United States as presiding officer of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives and each member of the Nevada Congressional Delegation; and be it further

*Resolved,* That this resolution becomes effective upon passage and approval.

POM-56. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas; to the Committee on Finance.

## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. 5015

Whereas, The State of Kansas is very concerned about the health and well-being of its senior and disabled citizens; and

Whereas, The State of Kansas believes that its senior and disabled citizens should have access to high quality, cost-effective home health care services; and

Whereas, Medicare beneficiaries needing the most care are being denied access to home health services as a result of medicare payment reforms; and

Whereas, The provisions of the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 establishing the interim payment system calling for payment cuts for medicare home health services will result in a cut back of those necessary services which will lead to increased utilization of more costly settings like emergency rooms, hospitals and nursing homes as well as shifting

an enormous financial and time consuming burden to the families of the senior or disabled citizens; and

Whereas, The medicare home health cuts will most likely shift service needs and costs to more expensive state programs, especially long-term care facilities, thus resulting in an unfunded mandate to Kansas and resulting in greater expense to both medicare and medicaid; Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Kansas, the Senate concurring therein:* That the Legislature hereby requests Congress to rescind the provisions of the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 related to the interim payment system for medicare home health services; and be it further

*Resolved:* That the Secretary of State is hereby directed to send enrolled copies of this resolution to the President and President pro tempore of the Senate of the United States, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the United States and to each member of the Kansas Congressional Delegation.

POM-57. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Montana; to the Committee on Finance.

#### JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 5

Whereas, the ever-increasing cost of prescription drugs and long-term care is beyond the income of most senior citizens; and

Whereas, 30 years ago the average monthly Social Security check would more than cover a month's stay in a nursing home as well as pay the cost of prescription drugs, while today the average monthly Social Security check will not pay for 1 week's stay in a nursing home; and

Whereas, prescription drugs can be purchased in either Mexico or Canada for one-fourth to one-third of the cost in the United States; and

Whereas, the cost of research and development of prescription drugs in the United States is so high that pharmaceutical companies must sell their product for as great a price as the market will bear in order to recoup some of those research and development costs; and

Whereas, billions of dollars are wasted because Congress will not allow Medicare to use competitive bidding in ordering supplies and equipment; and

Whereas, according to government estimates, Medicare improperly paid approximately \$23 billion in the 1997 fiscal year because of fraud and abuse; Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the State of Montana:*

(1) That the United States Congress is urged to enact legislation to place long-term care and prescription drugs in the Medicare program and that in order to pay for these changes to the Medicare program, a serious effort to eliminate fraud and abuse be inaugurated and that Congress give Medicare the right to use competitive bidding for purchasing prescription drugs and other supplies.

(2) That the federal government is urged to take serious measures to eliminate fraud and abuse wherever it may be found in the expenditure of federal tax dollars.

(3) That the United States Congress review the necessity for statutes and regulations that contribute to the high cost of research and development of prescription drugs in the United States and revise or eliminate those statutes and regulations that cause or contribute to the high cost of research and development of those drugs; be it further

*Resolved,* that the Secretary of State send a copy of this resolution to the President of the United States, the Speaker of the United

States House of Representatives, the President of the United States Senate and to each member of the Montana Congressional Delegation.

POM-58. A resolution adopted by the Council of the City of Cincinnati, Ohio relative to the Social Security system; to the Committee on Finance.

POM-59. A resolution adopted by the Council of the City of Cincinnati, Ohio relative to the decennial census; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

POM-60. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the Legislature of the State of Michigan; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 9

Whereas, The fragile ecology of the Great Lakes has been threatened by new species of fish and plant life introduced into this water system by ships releasing ballast water. In recent years, the zebra mussel, ruffe, and goby have posed significant challenges to the delicate balance of the most important fresh water resource of North America and the largest and most accessible source of fresh water in the world; and

Whereas, With changing technologies in the shipping industry and in the ability to monitor and test water, there are opportunities to make progress in the effort to halt the introduction of more nonindigenous species into the Great Lakes. Congress can contribute enormously to this work through stronger legislation to prohibit the dumping of ballast water in the Great Lakes water system and grants to promote better compliance; and

Whereas, The quality of the Great Lakes will play a large role in shaping the future not only for Michigan and the United States, but for all of North America; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate,* That we memorialize the Congress of the United States to strengthen measures to prohibit the dumping of shipping ballast water into the Great Lakes and connecting waterways; and be it further

*Resolved,* That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and the members of the Michigan congressional delegation.

#### INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second time by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. BENNETT (for himself, Mr. MACK, Mr. MURKOWSKI, and Mr. SANTORUM):

S. 881. A bill to ensure confidentiality with respect to medical records and health care-related information, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. MURKOWSKI (for himself, Mr. HAGEL, Mr. BYRD, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. GRAMS, Mr. HUTCHINSON, Mr. ENZI, Mr. SMITH of Oregon, and Mr. MCCAIN):

S. 882. A bill to strengthen provisions in the Energy Policy Act of 1992 and the Federal Nonnuclear Energy Research and Development Act of 1974 with respect to potential Climate Change; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. BIDEN:

S. 883. A bill to authorize the Attorney General to reschedule certain drugs that

pose an imminent danger to public safety, and to provide for the rescheduling of the date-rape drug and the classification of a certain "club" drug; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SARBANES (for himself, Mr. TORRICELLI, and Mr. HUTCHINSON):

S. 884. A bill to establish the National Military Museum Foundation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. BIDEN:

S. 885. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act and the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to provide incentives for the development of drugs for the treatment of addiction to illegal drugs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. HELMS:

S. 886. An original bill to authorize appropriations for the Department of State for fiscal years 2000 and 2001; to provide for enhanced security at United States diplomatic facilities; to provide for certain arms control, nonproliferation, and other national security measures; to provide for the reform of the United Nations; and for other purposes; from the Committee on Foreign Relations; placed on the calendar.

By Mr. SHELBY:

S. 887. A bill to establish a moratorium on the Foreign Visitors Program at the Department of Energy nuclear laboratories, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. MURKOWSKI (for himself, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. STEVENS, and Mr. INOUE):

S. 888. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the air transportation tax changes made by the Taxpayer Relief Act of 1997; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. HUTCHISON (for herself, Mr. SANTORUM, and Mr. COCHRAN):

S. 889. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax credit for investment necessary to revitalize communities within the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. WELLSTONE (for himself, Mr. ROBB, and Mr. FEINGOLD):

S. 890. A bill to facilitate the naturalization of aliens who served with special guerrilla units or irregular forces in Laos; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SCHUMER:

S. 891. A bill to amend section 922(x) of title 18, United States Code, to prohibit the transfer to and possession of handguns, semi-automatic assault weapons, and large capacity ammunition feeding devices by individuals who are less than 21 years of age, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. HATCH (for himself, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. MACK, Mr. BRYAN, Mr. MURKOWSKI, and Mr. BREAU):

S. 892. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend the subpart F exemption for active financing income; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. GORTON (for himself and Mrs. MURRAY):

S. 893. A bill to amend title 46, United States Code, to provide equitable treatment with respect to State and local income taxes for certain individuals who perform duties on vessels; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. JEFFORDS (for himself, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. SPECTER, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. MOYNIHAN, Mr. SESSIONS, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. LOTT, Ms. LANDRIEU, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. SHELBY, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. HOLLINGS, Mr. HUTCHINSON, Mr. DODD,